



PATRICIA PERKINS Director

DATE: March 31, 2021

TO: Idaho Mortgage Broker/Lender, Mortgage Loan Originators, Regulated Lender, Title Lender, Payday Lender and Collection Agency Licensees and Registrants

FROM: K.C. Schaler, Supervising Examiner

RE: Supplementary Extension of Temporary Regulatory Guidance Regarding Working from Home Due to Coronavirus/COVID-19 Concerns or Quarantines

On December 3, 2020, the Idaho Department of Finance issued an extension of its <u>Temporary Regulatory Guidance</u> pertaining to the ability of individual employees of licensees to work from their own residence, without obtaining an Idaho branch license or registration for the location, and under specific requirements. The intent of the Guidance is still to offer licensees the ability to continue business operations remotely while taking precautions to avoid the risk of exposure to COVID-19, and to comply with any quarantine requirements, stay-at-home orders and re-opening limitations.

The Department recognizes that the continued spread of localized person-to-person cases of the virus is still of concern to many licensees and their employees. As states and municipalities continue to impose, or lessen, restrictions and orders in varying degrees of limitations, licensees may still need to continue remote operations in certain locations. Additionally, the Department understands that licensees may want to continue to evaluate whether it is beneficial to their businesses and their consumers to continue utilizing remote operations as part of their business processes. The Department is therefore extending its Temporary Regulatory Guidance until December 31, 2021. Licensees are still expected to meet the requirements of the original Guidance and understand and recognize that the Guidance is not an amendment, or change in law, to the Idaho Residential Mortgage Practices Act, the Idaho Credit Code or the Idaho Collection Agency Act.

This extended Guidance may be modified or withdrawn by the Director as conditions change or as otherwise directed by Governor Little. Licensees should be prepared to comply with all statutory licensing requirements by December 31, 2021, unless otherwise notified in writing by the Department.

Questions regarding this Temporary Guidance may be directed to finance@finance.idaho.gov, or to (208) 332-8000.